

## Editorial

Dear readers,

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you wonderful summer holidays and- at the same time - to share some very interesting news with you about events from the last months and information on new projects which were recently approved. Starting from mid-October, WUS AT will be partnering in three new Erasmus+ projects which are briefly presented in our thematic article below.

Furthermore, we would like to update you on some exciting events which have taken place since April:

In April and May the Western Balkan region was enriched with three more Innovation Labs that were opened in Novi Sad and Subotica in Serbia and in Zenica in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The labs had been established in the frame of the EU funded project “**iDEAlab** - Fostering students’ entrepreneurship and open innovation in university-industry collaboration”, with the aim to provide students with a space and platform to create and try out new ideas using state-of-art equipment and systems.

In May, EU partners of the project “**KTU** - Knowledge Transfer Units” visited partner universities in Ukraine (Kiev, Khmelnytsky and Dneprodzerzhinsk) for a joint monitoring/mentoring/project management visit. Based on the finding from the visits, WUS Austria drafted a monitoring report with recommendations for project partners. Within the KTU project, knowledge transfer units (KTU) were established at six partner universities in Ukraine, their capacities developed and new interdisciplinary modules are being introduced.

In July, partners of the project “**NURSLING** - National Qualification Frameworks: Guidelines for Development and Recognition of Qualifications” met in Koblenz, Germany, to participate in the summer university 2016, organised in cooperation with several international projects at the university. In this context, WUS Austria gave a lecture on “Output Based Education”. The NURSLING project supports the establishing of a National Qualification Framework in Uzbekistan.

We wish all of you an exciting and relaxing summer time!

Enjoy reading!

Michaela Handke and Louise Sperl

[michaela.handke@wus-austria.org](mailto:michaela.handke@wus-austria.org); [louise.sperl@wus-austria.org](mailto:louise.sperl@wus-austria.org)

## Thematic Article

### NEW ERASMUS+ PROJECTS ON INCLUSION, MIGRATION AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

As of 15 October 2016, WUS AT will partner in three new Erasmus+ projects on the topics of inclusion, migration and cultural heritage. The implementation period of each project will be three years. The projects will be implemented in the Western Balkans, the Caucasus region as well as in Afghanistan.

**“INCLUSION - Development and Implementation of Social Dimension Strategies at HEIs in Armenia and BiH through Cross-regional Peer Learning”** is a three-year project which aims at contributing to the implementation of social dimension (SD) strategies for HE through capitalizing on knowledge transfer and cross-regional cooperation.

The specific *objectives* are: Capacity building of the HE sector for designing and implementing SD strategies;

Development of a harmonized approach for the implementation of SD strategies in line with country specific objectives; Fostering access to/participation in and completion of higher education for persons from vulnerable/ underrepresented groups.

The principle *outputs* and outcomes of the project will include national level guidelines on the development and operationalization of SD strategies, institutional level master plans and mechanisms to implement SD strategies related to fostering access to, participation in and completion of HE for students from vulnerable and underrepresented groups; capacity building of HEIs and respective government authorities for the operationalization of SD strategies; development of resources for inclusive teaching and learning and materials to raise awareness of high school pupils & teachers on equal access to higher education.

The consortium consists of partner institutions from Armenia, Austria, BiH, Belgium and UK.

**“PROMIG - Promoting Migration Studies in Higher Education”** is a three-year project based on national and regional priorities and the development of cross regional cooperation practice amongst HEIs dealing with or interested in migration related research and curriculum development.

The project will be able to benefit from the partnerships established and experiences made within the previous EC funded project **“UNIMIG - Migration and Higher Education - Building Skills and Capacities”** (implemented in the Southern Caucasus region): As a result of the successful accomplishment of this Tempus project, the consortium member institutions of UNIMIG will transfer the knowledge, experiences and lessons learned for building capacities in Afghanistan for Kabul and Tabesh Universities in curriculum development, strengthening international relations capacities and for improving the quality of education and teaching by integrating migration related challenges faced by Afghanistan into the teaching schemes of partner country institutions and vice versa.

Specific objectives of the project include the development, accreditation and implementation of MA programs in Migration Studies in Afghanistan; the establishment of a Migration Competence Centre (MCC) at Kabul University; the development of training modules for Students, Government Officials and CSOs and the establishment of an annual, cross regional and inter cultural Summer School.

The consortium consists of partner institutions from Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Austria, Georgia, Germany and Spain.

**“CULTURWB - Strengthening Capacities for Tourism Changes in the Western Balkans - Building Competences for Quality Management of Heritage and Cultural Tourism”** is a three year project which will address the need for strengthening the cultural tourism industry development in Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Montenegro.

Concrete project objectives include research on instances and required competences of personnel in the cultural tourism industry; the development of an LLL programme and an interdisciplinary MA program that consolidates the field of tourism management and culture & heritage; connecting the tourism industries between the involved non-EU countries and preparing each WB partner country for EU integration.

The project aims at shaping the cultural identity in the WB; strengthening the commercialization of cultural values; offering learning of sophisticated skills and acquiring of competences in cultural tourism management; utilizing research methodologies (e.g. marketing and branding, strategy business planning etc); forming a network of MA students and relevant stakeholders within the

industry; creating an online platform for communication between stakeholders; designing a toolkit aimed at a variety of professional users who welcome and manage visitors at their destination or site and strengthening quality assurance in heritage and cultural tourism management

The consortium consists of partner institutions from Austria, BiH, Germany, Montenegro, Netherlands and Serbia.

More information on these three projects will be available on our website within the coming months.

We are looking very much forward to collaborating with all our partners in these projects!

## Recent News & Events

20.07.2016

### **NURSLING: summer university 2016 in Koblenz**



*Koblenz.* Partners of the project NURSLING meet in Koblenz, Germany, to participate in the summer university 2016, organised in cooperation with several international projects at the university. WUS Austria gives a lecture on "Output Based Education". The NURSLING project is supports the establishing of a National Qualification Framework in Uzbekistan. [read more](#)

27.05.2016

### **PATTERNS Lectures 2016/2017: kicking off the new courses!**



*Vienna.* the Kick-off Meeting for the PATTERNS Lectures courses of 2016/2017 has taken place from 23-25 May in Vienna.

Out of 49 applications from 11 countries the PATTERNS Lectures Advisors selected 12 courses that will be taught in 8 different countries throughout the academic year 2016/2017. [read more](#)

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